

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO.

TOPIC KVP in the Eggesin-Altwarb Area

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EVALUATION

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PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT 5 and 6 July 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 17 August 1953

REFERENCES

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PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. On 5 July 1953, one building of Section C of Object No VIII in Eggesin was occupied by an artillery unit of between 300 to 350 artillery men who wore black collar patches. Twelve 152-mm guns which had solid tires, split trail gun carriages and no muzzle brake were immediately beside the building. Twenty 4-wheel armored scout cars, 15 T-34 tanks and not less than 5 x 76.2-mm AT guns were in a restricted and heavily guarded parking lot. Installation work was scheduled to begin in Sections A through E of the installation on 1 August and to be completed on 30 August.¹
2. On 6 July, a heavy mortar unit of about 1,200 soldiers who wore black collar patches was stationed at the hutment about 1.5 km west of Altwarb and north of the Warsin road. The troops were quartered in about 13 low wooden buildings. About 60 trucks and 40 x 120-mm mortars were just east of the camp. Two trucks each towed one mortar. Soldiers stated that one battery had transferred for an unknown destination on 2 July and two batteries on 3 July. An employee stated that the unit would soon move to Object No VIII southeast of Eggesin.²
3. An AAA unit, allegedly a regiment, which numbered between 800 and 900 troops was quartered in a tent camp located toward Altwarb and about 500 meters from the hutment. The troops were organized into three sections. Between 35 and 40 x 37-mm AA guns were seen. Heavy guns had apparently left the installation. Soldiers stated that the unit had 140 motor vehicles. On 2 July, two batteries and, on 3 July, an additional battery were loaded for Ohrdruf.³

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1. Comment. Available information indicated that Object No VIII in Karpin was scheduled to quarter three mechanized regiments, the howitzer artillery regiment, the mortar regiment and, possibly, the reconnaissance battalion of the mechanized division in Eggesin. The troops are stationed at present at summer camps in the vicinity of the installation. Since the howitzer artillery regiment of the mechanized division in Eggesin is equipped with 122-mm howitzers, the caliber of the guns observed appears to be stated incorrectly. Only the artillery regiment of Armeegruppe Nord which is stationed in the area of Stallberg-Viereck is equipped with 152-mm howitzers.

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2. Comment. The unit observed is the mortar regiment of the division in Eggesin which had previously been reported training in the area of Altwarp.

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3. Comment. The unit observed is the AAA regiment of the mechanized division in Eggesin. The 85-mm AAA previously observed there belonged to the AAA regiment of Armeegruppe Nord which also performed firing practices in the area of Altwarp. The transfer to the area of Ohrdruf of AAA batteries may be correct. The AAA regiment of TV 6000 is located in Gotha. It is possible that several batteries of the AAA regiment of the division in Eggesin were detached to Gotha and/or Ohrdruf for joint practices with the AAA regiment of TV 6000. For example, AAA batteries of Armeegruppe Nord had already been detached to the AAA officers school in Oranienburg as instruction units in the spring and summer of 1953. The Soviet troop training grounds in Ohrdruf was also utilized by KVP in the late summer and fall of 1952.

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